Mumbai

Name of the agencies presently entrusted with maintenance		(i) M/s Tyco Fire and Security Inda Pvt. Limited.
Year		Amount paid
2002-03	—	Rs. 1,41,84,779
2003-04	—	Rs. 2,04,38,693
2004-06 (upto 30th November, 2005)	—	Rs. 2,21,60,776

Kolkata

The work of maintenance of traffic signals in Kolkata has been entrusted to various companies namely Onnyx, Control Device, CMS, Pioneer on advertisement right basis. All expenditure incurred on maintenance of traffic signals are borne by these companies.

(b) As per available information, traffic signals in all these cities are functioning satisfactorily. Occasional complaints of failure/malfunctioning of signals/are attended to by the concerned agencies as and when reported/noticed.

Crimes against women

2348. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the increasing incidents of crimes against women are having bad impact on the visiting tourists of the capital; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) A total of 11,18,663 foreign tourists have visited Delhi upto 30th November of the current year as against 10,73,418 during the entire year of 2004.

However, the Government has taken a number of steps to prevent crime against women including establishment of Crime Against Women

Cells; setting up of Rape Crises Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts; association of Women Police Officers and NGO in investigation of rape cases; setting up of three Special Courts headed by women judges; networking with Non-Governmental Organisations; deployment of staff in plain clothes at vulnerable places; starting of dedicated telephone help lines; and constitution of 'Women Mobile Team' to attend to distress calls from women on round-the-clock basis; providing counselling through the NGOs to the needy complainant; seeking help of NGOs and professionals such as social workers, doctors, psychologists, lawyers and special counsellors during the investigation of rape cases; association of NGOs to assist the victims during medical examination and for counselling, treatment, rehabilitation, Self-Defence training programme and the recently launched scheme "Parivartan" under which lady beat constables have been deployed in selected slum areas.

The Government has also taken a number of steps to prevent crime against foreign and domestic tourists which include keeping surveillance over the areas frequented by tourists including taxi/auto's leaving airports along with tourists; running of Pre-paid Fare Booths; issue of complaint cards to passengers availing taxi facility at the airports; launching of a drive to verify the character and antecedents of taxi drivers operating at Indira Gandhi International Airport and issue of Public Service Vehicle Badges to them; and taking of stringent steps to eliminate the menance of tours at the airports. In addition, keeping in view the importance of Delhi as a tourist destination, Delhi Police has launched a scheme on 6.8.2004 to help tourists including foreign tourists to overcome the problems of transport, accommodation, tourism-related information etc. Under this scheme Delhi Police has deployed Tourist Police at prominent places like IGI Airport, New Delhi Railway station, Nizamuddin Railway Station, Rajghat, Red Fort, Qutub Minar, Palika Bazar, Janpath, India Gate etc.

Extortion of money by constables

† 2349. PROF.ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Constables of Delhi Police extort money from 'Rehdiwalas' who do their business in Delhi;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.